Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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ACDA-05 AEC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 FEA-01 /105 W ------ 021607

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E.O. 11652: GDS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

TAGS: MARR PINR CH US UR FR

SUBJ: CHINESE PERMREP STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR

TESTING

1. CHINESE PERMREP HUANG HUA, IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT NOVEMBER 26 AT SC LUNCH, COMMENTED HE HAD SEEN NUMEROUS REFERENCES BEING MADE IN PRESS AND ELSEWHERE TO "NEW EPOCH" FOLLOWING THE FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING IN VLADIVOSTOK. HE HIMSELF DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WAS A NEW EPOCH, AND HE WOULD NOT WANT TO SEE THAT KIND OF AN EPOCH IN ANY EVENT. HE SPOKE OF THE REPORTED AGREEMENT ON NUCLEAR LIMITS. BENNETT ARGUED THAT AGREEMENT ON CONTROLS AND UPPER LIMITS ON NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS WAS OF UNDOUBTED IMPORTANCE TO ALL OF US AND HENCE SHOULD BE A MATTER OF INTEREST TO THE ENTIRE WORLD COMMUNITY, INCLUDING CHINA.

2. HUNAG HUA SCOFFED AT THE IDEA OF CONTROLS AND UPPER LIMITS, SAYING THAT EACH PREVIOUS SOVIET-US. AGREEMENT IN THIS FIELD HAD PROMPTLY BEEN FOLLOWED BY TESTING "IN LARGER MEGATONS."

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3. THIS LED TO A DISCUSSION BETWEEN HUNAG HUA AND THE FRENCH PERMREP DE GUIRINGAUD, WHO WAS PRESENT. DURING THE CONVERSATION, DE GUIRINGAUD REMARKED THAT FRENCH TESTING WOULD GO UNDER GROUND NEXT YEAR. THEN WITH A BOW TOWARD HUANG HUA HE COMMENTED THAT THIS WOULD LEAVE CHINA AS THE ONLY NUCLEAR POWER TESTING IN THE ATMOSPHERE. HUANG HUA'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WAS, "WE DON'T CARE ONE BIT." CHINA IS TESTING OVER ITS OWN TERRITORY, HE SAID, AND REPEATED EMPHATICALLY, "WE DON'T CARE ONE BIT WHETHER OTHERS LIKE OUR ATMOSPHERIC TESTING OR NOT."

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